



REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1917-1918.

SINCE the publication of the last Annual Report the Council have held 22 Meetings. The following Committees appointed by the Council have met and reported from time to time on the matters referred to them :—

Board of Architectural Education.	Timber Specification Committee.
Competitions Committee.	Allied Societies Joint Committee.
Fellowship Drawings Committee.	Housing Committee.
Finance and House Committee.	Hon. Members Committee.
Royal Gold Medal Committee.	Building after the War Conference.
Town Planning Committee.	Architects' War Committee and Sub-Committees.
Selection and General Purposes Committee.	Charing Cross Bridge Committee.
Conditions of Contract Revision Committee.	Informal Conferences and Sessional Papers Committee.

Brief particulars of the work of some of these Committees are embodied in this Report under various headings.

Obituary. The losses by death have been as follows :—

FELLOWS.		
Barclay : David.	Dickson : Lt.-Col. George Arthur Hamilton, M.V.O.	Murzban : Khan Bahadur Muncherjee Cowasjee.
Bruce : James.	Haywood-Farmer : Edward.	Shoppee : Charles Herbert.
Chancellor : Frederick.	Hills : Walter Augustus.	Weymouth : Richard Henry.
Clarke : Howard Chatfeild.	Horsley : Gerald Calcott.	
Clarkson : John.		

ASSOCIATES.		
Pennington : Thomas Frederick.	Pryce : Thomas Edward.	Scott : Walter.
Spiers : Walter Lewis.		

LICENTIATES.		
Davidson : William Campbell.	Mayor : R. Yates.	Streeter : Edwin Frederick William.
Goldstraw : Walter.	Miles : George Scott.	
Lemm : John.	Ross : James McGlashen.	

RETIRED FELLOWS.		
Gratton : Frederick Montague.		Henman : William.

HONORARY ASSOCIATES.		
Bond : Francis.	Jacob : Sir Swinton.	Wolfe-Barry : Sir John Wolfe.

HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBER.		
Perrin : Sainte Marie (France).		

In addition to these normal losses the Council have to record the loss of 1 Fellow, 18 Associates, 8 Licentiates, and 14 Students who have fallen in the War. Particulars of these are given on a later page of this Report.

Membership. The following table shows the present subscribing membership of the Royal Institute compared with the preceding five years:—

	Fellows.	Associates.	Hon. Associates.	Total.
1913	847	1,630	54	2,531
1914	852	1,695	56	2,603
1915	857	1,713	54	2,624
1916	852	1,679	52	2,583
1917	842	1,656	48	2,546
1918	838	1,631	45	2,514

During the official year since the last Annual General Meeting 19 Fellows and 10 Associates have been elected, as against 19 Fellows and 23 Associates the previous year.

Licentiates. There are now 1,822 Licentiates on the roll as against 1,890 last year. Since the publication of the last Annual Report 10 Licentiates have passed the Examination qualifying for election to the Fellowship, and 9 of these have been duly elected as Fellows.

The Examinations. During the year 47 candidates for Probationership have taken advantage of the new Regulations and have furnished to the Council satisfactory evidence of their attainments and been registered as Probationers.

The Intermediate and Final Examinations have been held once only during the official year—viz., in June. The following table, giving the results of the Examinations, shows that 34 Students have been added to the Register during the year, and that 4 candidates have passed the Examination qualifying for Associateship:—

	Exempted.	Examined.	Passed.	Relegated.
INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION	31	6	3	3
FINAL AND SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS	—	13	4	9

The Statutory Examination qualifying for candidature as District Surveyor in London, or as Building Surveyor under Local Authorities, was held in October, and resulted in the passing of one candidate.

The Council tender their grateful acknowledgments to the Honorary Examiners for their services.

Arbitrators. During the year the President has appointed the following members to act as Arbitrators in connection with building disputes:—

Mr. W. Chas. Waymouth.	Mr. John W. Simpson.	Mr. H. D. Scarles Wood.
Mr. E. M. Gibbs.	Mr. J. Coulson Nicol.	Mr. Arthur Keen.

Grants. Since the issue of the last Annual Report the Council have made the following grants:—

Architectural Association	£100 0 0	London Society (towards expenses of
Architects' Benevolent Society	100 0 0	Charing Cross Bridge Bill Petition) £26 5 0
Board of Scientific Societies	20 0 0	British School at Rome 3 3 0

Royal Gold Medal. The Royal Gold Medal for Architecture was awarded to the eminent French architect, M. Henri Paul Nénot, Membre de l'Institut, architect of the New Sorbonne, Paris [Hon. Corr. M.]. M. Nénot unfortunately was prevented by illness from attending in person to receive the Medal, and it was received on his behalf by the French Ambassador, through the agency of M. Adrien Thierry, First Secretary of the Embassy.

The Medal this year is to be awarded to Mr. Ernest Newton, A.R.A., *Past President*, in recognition of the merit of his executed work. His Majesty has graciously signified his approval of the award.

Presentation of Mr. Newton's Portrait. Mr. Newton's portrait, painted by Mr. Arthur Hacker, R.A., which was in the Royal Academy Exhibition of 1916, was formally presented to the Institute on the occasion of Mr. Newton's retirement from the Chair last June.

The R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour. Members who have joined the Forces since the outbreak of War now number 79 Fellows, 536 Associates, 333 Licentiates, and 800 Students. Since the last Annual Report the following have fallen:—

FELLOW.		
LINES: ROLAND WALTER	Lieut., Canadian Expeditionary Force	Killed in action.
ASSOCIATES.		
ALEXANDER: GEORGE LUARD	Capt., London Regt. (attached Staff)	Killed in action.

CALLENDER : GEORGE WILFRED	Lieut., Royal Engineers	Killed in action.
CLARK : WALTER LLEWELLYN	Capt., Royal Flying Corps	Killed in action.
COWDELL : CHARLES JOSEPH MORTON	2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers	Killed in action.
EATON : CHARLES WILLIAM	Capt., Leicester Regt.	Died of wounds.
GUTTERIDGE : RICHARD HOWARD	2nd Lieut., London Regt.	Killed in action.
HILL : CLAUDE EDGAR	Staff-Sergt., Royal Army Medical Corps	Killed in action.
HOUSTON : WILLIAM WYLIE	2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers	Killed in action.
LOVELL : CHARLES ERNEST	Lieut., Royal Engineers	Killed in action.
MANN : HENRY WILLIAM	2nd Lieut., R.F.A.	Killed in action.
MEIKLEHAM : DAVID LANG	Lee.-Corpl., Royal Engineers	Killed in action.
PONTON : HAROLD FREDERICK	—	Killed in action.
RIGG : WILLIAM ARTHUR	Public Schools Brigade	Killed in action.
ROGERS : CECIL WALTER	2nd Lieut., Royal West Surrey Regt.	Died of wounds.
SHEARS : REGINALD	London Regt.	Missing, believed killed.
TAYLOR : HERBERT SAMUEL	2nd Lieut., Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry	Killed in action.
WARRY : JOHN LUCAS	2nd Lieut., Rifle Brigade	Died of wounds.
WRIGHT : CECIL LAWRENCE	2nd Lieut., Royal Garrison Artillery	Killed in action.

LICENTIATES

ATKINSON : BEAUMONT ELLIS, Junr.	Lee.-Corpl., Middlesex Regt.	Killed in action.
BARKER : THOMAS CHRISTOPHER	Yorks Regt.	Accidentally killed.
BLACKBURNE-DANIELL : GEORGE FRANCIS	2nd Lieut., Royal Fusiliers	Killed in action.
FLOWER : VICTOR AUGUSTINE, D.S.O.	Lieut.-Col., London Regt.	Killed in action.
GARRATT : EDWARD	—	Killed in action.
O'BRIEN : EDWARD	Royal Army Medical Corps	Died on service.
TUCKER : ARTHUR HAINES	Lieut., Royal Sussex Regt.	Killed in action.
WILSON : JOHN HARDY	2nd Lieut., Sherwood Foresters	Killed in action.

STUDENTS AND PROBATIONERS.

ADAMS : HENRY EUSTACE	Rifle Brigade	—
APPLEBY : SIDNEY DERRICK	2nd Lieut., Loyal North Lancashire Regt.	Missing, believed killed.
BELL : EDGAR ALAN	Lee.-Corpl., Staffs Regt.	Died of wounds.
BEVILLE : ALFRED GEOFFREY	2nd Lieut., London Regt.	Killed in action.
BRUNELLE : HENRY CARLETON	Lieut. (acting Capt.), Lancs. Fusiliers	Killed in action.
DAVISON : W. RUPERT	Middlesex Regt.	Killed in action.
FREAKER : ALLEN LIONEL	Sergt., London Regt.	Killed in action.
GASCOYNE : CHARLES	Capt., Sherwood Foresters	Died of wounds in Germany.
GASKELL : REGINALD ROBINSON	Lieut., Royal Flying Corps	Accidentally killed.
MCLEAN : JAMES MONTEITH	2nd Lieut., Highland Light Infantry	Killed in action.
MATTHEWS : JOHN BEEDEL, M.C.	Capt., North Staffs Regt.	Killed in action.
MOODIE : JOHN	2nd Lieut., Seaforth Highlanders	Died of wounds.
STUART : ALEXANDER D.	Lieut., Seaforth Highlanders	Killed in action.
WRAY : ERNEST WARNEFORD	2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers	Killed in action.

Altogether, the Institute has lost in the War 1 Hon. Fellow, 1 Hon. Associate, 5 Fellows, 55 Associates, 17 Licentiates, and 37 Students.

The Council recall with pride the brilliant positions achieved in a wholly unexpected career by members of the Institute, and the many distinctions won by members and students for conspicuous bravery and gallant and distinguished service in the field. The following have been noted in the *Gazette* or have been intimated to the Secretary ; there are doubtless many others :

V.C.—Capt. E. N. F. Bell [Student].

C.B., C.M.G.—Brig.-Gen. Charles Rosenthal [A.].

C.M.G.—Brig.-Gen. A. B. Hubback [F.].

D.S.O.—Lieut.-Col. J. Maurice Arthur [Licentiate]; Lieut.-Col. A. W. Brewill [F.]; Lieut.-Col. T. Cecil Howitt [A.]; Lieut.-Col. Victor A. Flower [Licentiate], since killed; Lieut.-Col. John Brown [Licentiate]; Major H. Phillips Fletcher, *Croix de Guerre* [F.], since accidentally killed; Major H. P. G. Maule, *M.C.* [F.]

M.C.—Major P. G. Fry [Licentiate]; Capt. Basil White Ridley [A.]; Capt. P. Hubert Keys [A.], Capt. A. M. Barrowcliff [Student]; Capt. S. H. Fisher [A.]; Capt. H. G. Wicks [Student]; Capt. C. E. Clouting [A.]; Capt. H. E. Moore [A.]; Capt. D. McL. Craik [F.]; Capt. H. C. Atkin-Berry [Student]; Capt. W. N. J. Moscrop [Student]; Capt.

H. L. Fetherstonhaugh [A.]; Capt. Percy T. Runton [A.]; Capt. F. W. Moore [A.]; Lieut. L. A. Culliford [A.]; Lieut. W. G. Newton [A.]; Lieut. C. H. Calvert [A.]; Lieut. W. H. Hillyer [Student]; Lieut. G. H. Jones [A.]; Lieut. H. W. Mann [A.]; Lieut. E. A. Rahles Rabula [A.]; Lieut. A. M. Durrant [A.]; Lieut. Gordon Leith [A.]; Lieut. H. S. Triscott [A.], with bar; Lieut. John Woolatt [A.]; Lieut. J. H. Gibbons [A.]; Lieut. Wilfrid L. Mellor [A.].

Croix de Guerre.—Commandant Christopher Groves [A.], French Army.

Appointments. During the Session the Council have made the following appointments of members to represent the Institute on the various bodies or for the purposes indicated :—

Mr. Reginald Blomfield, R.A., reappointed as a Member of the Council of the British School at Rome.

Mr. Henry Hartley reappointed as a Member of the Court of the University of Liverpool.

Mr. Mowbray A. Green reappointed as a Member of the Court of the University of Bristol.

Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood reappointed as a Member of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board.

The President and Mr. Searles-Wood were appointed to represent the Institute at the Conference for London, Greater London, and the Home Counties on Housing and Town Planning.

Mr. H. V. Lanchester and Professor Adshead were appointed to represent the Institute on the Government Committee considering the question of the establishment of a Standing Committee of Professional Bodies in connection with the Board of Education.

Mr. A. N. Prentice and Mr. Walter Tapper were appointed to represent the Institute on the Imperial Institute Committee on Indian and Colonial Marbles.

Mr. Alan E. Munby, Mr. W. E. Vernon Crompton, and Mr. Digby Solomon were appointed to represent the Institute on the Imperial Institute Committee on Corrosion of Brass.

The President, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Keen, Professor Beresford Pite, and Professor Lethaby were appointed a deputation to interview the Education Authority in connection with the subject of training in Secondary Schools.

Informal Conferences. The Informal Conferences on subjects of interest to the profession, which proved so useful and successful last session, have been continued in the present. The Council wish particularly to record their sense of obligation to Mr. Sidney Webb for the valuable discourse delivered on the 22nd November on "The Function of an Architectural Society" (JOURNAL, Dec. 1917). They commend as of vital moment to the Institute the ideas he expresses as to the part professional associations should play in the world—what they can do, and what they ought not to do. The subjects of the other conferences include "Unity of the Profession," "Co-operation amongst Architects and Specialisation," "National Housing and National Life," "Quality of Work and the Present System of Competitive Tendering" (conference with builders and workmen), "Proposed Parliament of Building Trades." The conferences announced to take place with public men and writers on "The Need for a National Policy of Town Improvement" and with engineers on "The Relations of Architecture and Engineering" have been postponed.

The Council are indebted to Mr. Walter G. Bell, F.R.A.S., for the valuable and interesting Paper on "The Rebuilding of London after the Great Fire," read at the meeting of the 4th March, and to be published later in the JOURNAL.

Housing of the Working Classes. In the autumn recess last year a Committee consisting of members of the Institute and representatives of Allied Societies was constituted by the Council to consider the whole question of housing of the industrial classes from the architect's point of view, and to send a deputation to the Local Government Board. Among matters considered were the place of the architect in connection with housing operations proposed to be undertaken by Local Authorities, and the means whereby the Central Authority could control the schemes of Local Authorities so as to ensure that the best results are attained. A resolution was passed urging upon the Local Government Board that consideration should only be given to housing schemes where the plans had been prepared by persons properly qualified as architects both in the design and in the architectural lay-out and grouping of buildings; further, that the names and qualifications of such persons should be

submitted to and approved by the Local Government Board before the schemes were sanctioned. Both the President and Sir Aston Webb, as members of Committees formed by the Government to discuss in connection with the housing question building construction, materials, &c., have had the opportunity of pressing upon the Local Government Board the desirability in the interests of the public of employing competent architects and giving them practically a free hand from the start, not only in the design of the houses themselves, but in the general lay-out of the area to be dealt with. It is satisfactory to mention that the Local Government Board have lent a favourable ear to their representations and have declared their intention of securing the employment of architects in housing schemes over which they have control.

Among other matters the Institute Housing Committee had arranged to discuss were economy of lay-out and cheaper construction, standardisation of parts, materials, despatch in erection, building by-laws, &c. It became, however, unnecessary for the Committee to pursue these inquiries as later in the year the Government decided to take the matter up, and the Council were asked to appoint representatives to give evidence on these questions before the various Government Committees.

Government Housing Schemes. The Local Government Board having invited the Institute's assistance in obtaining the best typical plans of houses for the industrial classes and placed at the Institute's disposal a sum of money for the purpose, the Council organised a series of competitions to be conducted simultaneously throughout the country by the Institute and the Allied Societies. The plans so obtained are to serve as guides to local authorities and others, and to be used as instructions to the architects employed on the schemes. In choosing the method of obtaining designs by competition rather than by commissioning a few architects to prepare them, the Council were actuated by the consideration that while the war lasts architects had little prospect of practising, and that the premiums awarded to the successful competitors were fully adequate to compensate for the exceptional conditions; further, that architects serving at the Front would have their share of the work when peace is restored and they are released from service.

The results of the Competitions have been announced, but statistics may be usefully recorded here of the numbers who took part and of the designs received in the various areas:—

Area.	Number of Competitors.	Designs received.
Home Counties	336	686
Northern	100	226
Liverpool and Manchester	132	301
Midland	107	248
South-West	67	169
South Wales	66	158
	808	1,788

Architects and Government Departments. Members will recall that when the National Service Scheme was first set on foot a deputation from the Institute waited upon the Director and suggested ways in which the services of architects might be utilised for the benefit of the State; at the same time the entire organisation of the Institute and the services of architects were freely placed at the Government's disposal. The offer has been accepted in various ways, and the Council have the satisfaction to report that frequent reference has been made to them by Government Departments on questions connected with the building industry. Architects have also been appointed to positions in various Departments of the Government, notably at the Local Government Board, the Ministry of Munitions, the Ministry of Reconstruction, the Ministry of Works, the Board of Trade, and the Ministry of National Service.

Mr. Ernest Newton, A.R.A., has been transferred to the Ministry of National Service, where he is in charge of the branch dealing with Building Licences.

The President is also at the Ministry of National Service filling the position of Technical Adviser to the Building Section.

Various inspectorships in connection with Mr. Newton's Department are held by architects.

On the nomination of the President at the request of the Local Government Board, Sir Aston Webb was appointed representative of the Institute on the Advisory Council set up by the Government to consider questions of building construction and methods of securing economy and despatch in the building of working-class houses that will be needed after the war.

Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood has been appointed Adviser to the Board of Trade on the Reconstruction of the Building Industry.

On the application of the Local Government Board the President was appointed to give evidence before the Housing (Building Construction) Committee of that Department.

The following have been appointed to represent the Institute and to give evidence at an inquiry conducted by the Building Materials Supply Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction:—The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, Mr. Paul Waterhouse.

The following have been appointed to give evidence on Building By-laws before a committee of the Local Government Board:—Professor Beresford Pite, Mr. S. Perkins Pick (Leicester), Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood, and Mr. W. R. Davidge.

War Time Employment for Architects. The scheme of Civic Surveys has continued in operation during the year and provided employment for architects in the areas of Greater London, South Lancashire (Liverpool and Manchester) and South Yorkshire (Leeds). The number of workers has diminished

gradually throughout the year, in consequence of most of those who were engaged having found employment either in Government offices or elsewhere. There are now twenty-seven architects at work in the three areas.

The services of the members of the Civic Survey of Greater London have been utilised to a considerable extent by the Air Board in executing tracings of aeroplane parts which were urgently needed for the speedy production of aeroplanes.

Independently of the Civic Surveys a considerable number of appointments have been found for other applicants, and this work is still in progress.

The Institute continues to provide accommodation and clerical assistance and to defray other expenses in connection with the War Committee and the Civic Surveys, at a cost during the past year of £255.

Representations were made to the Reconstruction Committee of the Board of Control that it would be of great assistance to asylum architects whose work had been stopped if the Board would pass the preliminary plans so that the working drawings for the erection and extension of asylums could be completed in readiness for the work of building immediately after the war. A sympathetic reply was received, and later the Institute was informed that the Board of Control had adopted the suggestion and had passed the plans of certain special buildings for the purpose desired.

Building after the War Conference. A Conference of representatives of the professional institutions of Architects, Surveyors and Builders has been called by the President to discuss problems relating to the reconstruction after the war of the professions and trades connected with architecture and building, a primary object being to assist the authorities in re-starting the building and kindred industries immediately peace is restored. Endeavour will be made to induce the Government to encourage employers to apply for the release, in advance of general demobilisation, of the managers and organisers of professional, commercial and industrial concerns, so that they may re-organise the various businesses with which they were connected before the war and get them into an efficient state to deal promptly with the conditions that will obtain after the war. The Conference is also pressing the desirability of an early relaxation of the present administrative restrictions on building and building materials.

**Town
Planning
Schemes.**

By the system of Press cuttings inaugurated last year at the suggestion of the Town Planning Committee the Council have received early intimation of every town planning and improvement scheme in contemplation throughout the country, and a memorandum emphasizing the need for efficient architectural advice has been at once sent from the Institute to the local authorities concerned. At the same time the Allied Society of the district has been communicated with in order that united effort may be made to secure the appointment of architects to collaborate with the municipal officials in the preparation of the scheme. It is satisfactory to state that the Council have received from municipal authorities many gratifying expressions of appreciation of the advice tendered them, and it may be confidently anticipated that in the future the claims of architects to act as expert advisers in matters of town development and improvement will become more and more generally recognised.

**Charing
Cross
Bridge.**

The South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company's Bill for altering and strengthening Charing Cross Bridge having passed the House of Commons and been sent up to the Lords, the Institute, in conjunction with the London Society, petitioned against it, and were heard by counsel before a Select Committee of the House. Evidence on behalf of the petitioners was given to such good purpose by Sir Aston Webb, the Earl of Plymouth, Lord Ribblesdale, and Mr. Burns that the Committee introduced provisions into the Bill to ensure that every opportunity should be given to the authorities to consider the possibilities of the great scheme of improvement which the Institute advocates for this neighbourhood before any large expenditure is permitted on the present bridge and station.

**General
Education
and the
Building
Industry.**

In view of the future educational policy of the Government, as foreshadowed in Mr. Fisher's statement in the House of Commons last summer, a memorial was addressed on behalf of the Council to the President of the Board of Education pointing out that from experience gained in the Institute Examinations it was felt that the type of general education leading up to architecture and kindred callings required to be very greatly improved if it is to develop on the best lines the mental outlook demanded in all who are engaged in the building industries. The memorial, touching also on the wider aspect of the national attitude towards corporate life and the demands of civilisation, showed that the improvements suggested in education would be of value not only as preparatory to the exercise of the callings connected with building but from the point of view also of general culture. Later in the session the Council, at the invitation of the Board of Education, sent representatives to discuss the Institute's suggestions with the Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools. As a result of the interview, assurances have been given that the Education Authority in revising the existing school curriculum will have regard to the views of the Institute, and that as far as practicable endeavour will be made to give effect to them.

**National War
Museum.**

The Council, realising the unique opportunity the proposed National War Museum would afford for a national and imperial architectural monument worthy of the events it would commemorate, addressed the Government on the subject, urging that when the time came for considering the means of procuring designs the most desirable procedure would be by a competition open to architects of the whole Empire, and offering to assist in the organisation if such a competition were decided on. The First Commissioner of Works, in reply, promised that the Institute's suggestion should be kept in mind, and that he would receive a deputation to discuss the matter when the time was ripe to take definite action.

**The Institute
and the
Allied
Societies.**

A Joint Committee of representatives of the Allied Societies and of the Institute was appointed by the Council to consider a number of suggestions put forward at a conference of representatives of Allied Societies held at Manchester in April 1917 for raising the status of architects and improving the relations of the non-Metropolitan Societies with the parent body in London. Meetings of the Joint Committee have been held in London, Man-

chester and Birmingham, and resolutions have been passed embodying suggestions and recommendations, some of which are already in process of being given effect to, and others are to receive the Council's careful and sympathetic consideration. The meetings in the Allied Centres have been of a very cordial nature. The discussions have traversed a wide field, and opportunity has been afforded for an interchange of ideas which the Council feel will have excellent results not only for the unity of the profession with which the resolutions were mainly concerned but also for the advancement of architecture which it is the Institute's mission to further.

Revised Form of Contract. The Committee for the Revision of the Conditions of Contract have completed their labours, and the draft revised Form will be submitted for the opinion of the Institute solicitors.

The Committee report that they have held 39 meetings, and have considered the task entrusted to them in the light of recent legal discussions and of the various difficulties in connection with the existing Form which have been before the Practice Standing Committee from time to time. They also acknowledge their indebtedness to the Forms used by various public bodies and practising architects. The Revised Form will be submitted for the sanction of the General Body at the earliest convenient date.

Suspension of By-Laws. In order to save the expense and labour involved in the Annual Elections, the Council brought forward a proposition, which has been assented to by the General Body, that the elections should not take place this year, and that the present Council and Standing Committees should continue in office, an exception being made in the case of the representation of the Allied Societies and the Architectural Association, which are to be represented by their Presidents in accordance with the By-laws. Application has been made to the Privy Council to sanction the suspension of certain By-laws to enable the proposition to be given effect to.

The Great Pyramid of Gizeh. The attention of the Council having been drawn to a scheme promoted by an American society to erect a school in such close proximity to the Great Pyramid of Gizeh that no one could look at the monument without having the school buildings thrust upon his notice—the promoters frankly avowing that the Pyramid was to serve as an advertisement for the school—the Council appealed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to intervene with the Egyptian Government to prevent a site of such supreme historical and archaeological interest being desecrated in the way proposed. A reply from the Foreign Office stated that the letter had been communicated to Sir F. Wingate, H.M. High Commissioner for Egypt, and that he had given the assurance that the Egyptian Government disapproved of the scheme and that it had been abandoned.

Scheduling of Air Raid Refuges. The President has approached the Chief Commissioner of Police with suggestions in connection with the steps to be taken for scheduling buildings which are relatively safe as refuges for the public during air raids. He proposed that there should be enlisted for the work the assistance of District Surveyors, whose duties render them familiar with the construction of all modern buildings in their districts and with many of the older ones, and that they should be assisted by architects and surveyors, whose training and experience especially qualified them to inspect and report. It was further suggested that the owners and occupiers of buildings reported relatively safe should be asked to consent to the public in an emergency taking refuge in them. Attention was also called to the desirability of rendering the lift-wells of Tube Stations safe by means of sand-bags or other protection. A reply has been received stating that the suggestions would be laid before the Committee which has been appointed to advise the Police Authority as to the safety of air-raid shelters.*

Maddox Street Galleries. The Institute Galleries at the rear of No. 9, Conduit Street were commandeered by the Government for a few weeks for the temporary accommodation of the Canadian Forestry Corps. A claim by the Council for compensation for the use of the Galleries has been presented and is being considered by the Office of Works.

*This Committee consists of Sir Alexander Stenning [F.], Chairman, Mr. G. C. T. Monson [F.], Mr. C. FitzRoy Doll [F.], Mr. Dendy Watney, Mr. Horace Cheston [F.], and Mr. H. Percy Monckton [F.].

Finances. During the period under review the loss of income through the remission of subscriptions of members serving with the Forces has amounted to nearly £1,150. Substantial economies, however, have been effected in all departments of expenditure, and a satisfactory drop will be observed in the bank overdraft compared with 1916 when the maximum was £361 higher. The net result for the year 1917 is a balance of £241 income over expenditure. A table is appended showing in round figures the sum of the principal items of income and expenditure in the year before the war, and since:—

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Income	£12,869	£14,114	£10,740	£8,294	£7,376
Expenditure	11,567	11,391	10,020	7,882	7,135
Surplus	1,302	*2,722	719	412	241
Bank overdraft	£4,846	£2,707	£2,044	£1,900	£1,639
Subscriptions	9,097	9,192	8,193	7,047	6,648
Examination fees	1,633	1,169	749	317	306
Examination expenses	357	353	237	84	64
Rent from tenants	392	454	85	80	80
Grants	534	1,148	1,501	474	249
Journal	2,129	1,804	1,531	1,118	977
Income from advertisements and sale of publications	1,746	1,647	1,179	610	325
General printing, &c.	1,115	944	694	449	304
Subscriptions in arrear	776	1,063	1,169	1,946	2,870

* Increase due to final dividend from Architectural Union Company on liquidation.

R.I.B.A. Staff on Service. The Council deeply regret to record the death in action of Private William Fincher, London Regiment, for thirteen years office attendant at the Institute.

The Secretary is holding a commission in the Royal Defence Corps (home service), the Chief Clerk is in the Army Pay Department, and others are serving abroad. The Council continue to supplement their military pay so that their incomes may not be less than their civilian salaries.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

The Board have held seven meetings since the issue of the last Annual Report.

At the first meeting of the new Board Mr. Paul Waterhouse was elected Chairman, Mr. Lewis Solomon and Professor W. R. Lethaby, Vice-Chairmen, and Mr. Arthur Keen Hon. Secretary.

The Board have to record with great regret the death of Mr. Gerald Horsley, who acted as Hon. Secretary to the Board from August 1913 to June 1917.

Committees.—The following Committees have met and reported from time to time on the matters referred to them:—Testimonies of Study, Examinations, Exemptions, Examinations in India.

Problems in Design.—During the year 54 designs have been received and adjudicated on, and of these 38 have been approved. The proportion of approved designs compares favourably with previous years.

The Examinations.—The Board have conducted the Intermediate, Final and Special Examinations as usual, and the results as reported to the Council have been published.

Examinations after the War.—The Board notice with pleasure that the Council have approved a scheme prepared by the Board for (1) exemption and (2) examination after the War of Students and others now serving with the Colours. Full particulars of the scheme will be found in the March number of the JOURNAL.

Education of the Architect.—The Council have referred to the Board the resolutions of the Informal Conferences held last Session suggesting that they should be considered in the light of the criticism passed by the Conferences on the existing system of education and examination, and the subject is now under consideration.

Examinations in India.—The questions of architectural education and examination in India are being considered by the Board.

REPORT OF THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Arthur Keen was elected Chairman and Messrs. W. A. Forsyth and C. E. Sayer Honorary Secretaries.

The following important subjects were dealt with amongst other matters :—

The unsuccessful efforts of the Institute as shown by the correspondence with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, "trustees for the sale," in securing the retention of St. Alphege Church, London Wall, induced the Committee further to consider the question of the sale of City Church sites. While it was felt that the services of the R.I.B.A. may usefully be placed at the disposal of the Diocesan authority in the early consideration of these problems, the hope was unanimously expressed that the architectural and historical interest should take precedence of the claims of site values and of the emoluments yielded by the union of benefices. Members are therefore requested to keep the Council informed as to the occasions when the Institute might make representations to the authorities concerned.

Arising from correspondence with the Editor of *The Field*, the important question of War Memorials was carefully considered. Amongst many suggestions, the Committee recommended that the general treatment should be traditional yet distinctive and that local material and craftsmanship, where suitable, should be used. Simplicity and durability are essential qualities. Inscriptions should be legible and of refined text. Memorials should, if possible, bear some structural relationship to the buildings to which they may be attached. Scale, proportion and colour are important factors. All memorials of this greatest war of all time should, if possible, possess one common feature distinguishing them from memorials of previous wars. The further suggestion was made that the promoters of large public Memorial Schemes should seek the assistance of the R.I.B.A. in conjunction with their own professional advisers.

As a result of one of the Informal Conferences, the subject of the Control of Street Architecture was referred by the Council to the Committee for furthering the conclusions of the Conference. The Art Committee recommended that the Council appoint a strong and representative committee to take steps to arouse interest with architects and others concerned by means of a further discussion and the issue of an illustrated report, showing the advantages of direction or control in street design. The rebuilding of streets following the Napoleonic wars is a distinctive historic record in British Architecture, and it is felt that the time has come when early consideration should be given to the lines governing the treatment of future street frontage in English towns, and especially in London, which will reflect the outcome of the great European War of the twentieth century. The Council has decided to appoint a Committee for this purpose.

Understanding that the demolition of St. Olave's Church, Southwark, had been decided upon, and that there was no hope of retaining the building on its present site, the Art Committee have supported the London County Council in its action to secure from the promoters of the Bill before Parliament provisions for the re-erection of the Church on another site under qualified supervision.

REPORT OF THE PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The elected officers were :—Chairman, Mr. W. H. Atkin-Berry; Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. Gillbee Scott; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Percival M. Fraser and A. Saxon Snell.

Expert Advice and Architects' Charges in relation thereto.—The Committee's report on this matter was duly laid before the Council. This report, dealing with matters of the greatest importance, was circulated among the Allied Societies. It has recently been referred back with their comments to the Practice Committee and is now being reconsidered.

Sub-Committees.—The Professional Conduct and the Scale of Charges Sub-Committees were reappointed. The Sub-Committee on Scale of Charges have held about thirteen meetings and have before them many important matters which are still under consideration. The Sub-Committee on Professional Conduct have had no business before them. A Sub-Committee was appointed to consider

the advisability of preparing a pamphlet of instructions to arbitrators for the guidance of the profession. They have held many meetings and the matter is still under consideration.

Professional Advertising and Etiquette.—The Committee have considered representations made by members upon these matters and have recommended the Council to take action according to the circumstances of each case.

Status of Architects in the East.—Members of the Institute practising in the Far East have drawn attention to the low status of the profession in that part of the world and have appealed to the Institute to help them to ameliorate the disadvantages under which they have to practise. The matter was considered by the Committee, and their views were communicated to the applicants as to what steps could be taken with the expressed hope that the action of the Indian Public Works Department with regard to practice in India would afford an illustration of what might be done to redress their legitimate grievances.

Supplies of Timber after the War.—This most important matter has come before the Practice Committee, who have held joint meetings with the Council and the Science Committee to consider the supply of timber from the Overseas Dominions and our Allies to meet the deficit after the war, and have interviewed responsible officials and representatives of interested parties. The matter is still under consideration, and the Committee have in view the preparation of pamphlets and particulars, and it is hoped that an exhibition of timbers will shortly be arranged from which valuable results are anticipated.

Law on Light and Air.—An amendment of a far-reaching character has been proposed by the President on this law, which has been referred to this Committee, who have now reported to the Council.

Vote of Thanks.—The Committee have placed on record their thanks to Mr. Max Clarke, late Chairman, and Mr. Matt. Garbutt, late Hon. Secretary, for the valuable services which they have rendered to the Committee during their many years of office, and regretting that the effluxion of time necessitated their vacating their respective offices.

Building Owner's Use of Drawings.—The Committee are considering cases involving the building owner's use after a lapse of time of his architect's plans for further buildings with a view to avoiding payment of further fees, and also the cases relating to ownership of drawings.

Conditions of Contract.—The Committee have been consulted as to the meaning of certain clauses in the Conditions of Contract, but no point of general interest has arisen.

Architects and Estate Agency.—Many queries have been raised as to the propriety of an architect engaging in estate agency work, and the matter has been considered by the Committee, who have reported to the Council.

Members' Queries.—The Committee have dealt with a considerable number of queries raised by members, mainly on the question of disputed fees, and they wish to draw the attention of applicants to the necessity of attending to the following points:—

(a) That concise but detailed statements should be submitted, accompanied by documents wherever possible.

(b) That the Committee observe the rule of not coming to a decision upon purely *ex parte* statements.

(c) That the Committee do not advise members on matters unless questions of principle are involved.

(d) The Committee point out that the great majority of questions on fees arise in cases where the Institute's Scale of Charges has not been adopted as a basis, and their experience appears to indicate that such questions would not have arisen had the Institute's Scale of Charges been so adopted.

Personal Matters.—Many personal matters have been considered, but are of such a nature as to render any publication undesirable.

The late Mr. Edward Greenop.—The Committee have to acknowledge their thanks to the Executors

of the late Vice-Chairman, Mr. Edward Greenop, who have forwarded a series of volumes of the *Professional Notes* of the Surveyors' Institution for the use of the Practice Standing Committee.

Other Business.—Questions as to established custom and practice in various matters have been raised by members of the general public, and the Committee sent suitable replies where they considered the matter of general interest, although as a rule they consider only queries raised by members of the Institute. Many questions arising from the abnormal conditions in connection with labour, supplies of materials and Government restrictions, have been dealt with by the Committee, who have taken steps to render their opinions authoritative by consultation with Government Departments.

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Since the issue of its last Report the Literature Standing Committee have held five meetings.

The following officers were elected to serve during the Session :—Mr. H. H. Statham, Chairman ; Mr. Arthur T. Bolton, Vice-Chairman ; Mr. Herbert G. Ibberson and Mr. H. H. Wigglesworth, Hon. Secretaries.

The Committee have to record with regret the resignation of Mr. C. Harrison Townsend, late Chairman of the Committee, owing to his departure from London for service in the R.N.V.R.

Mr. J. D. Crace [Hon. A.] has made further valuable presentations of drawings from his collection to the Library. These include drawings by the late J. G. Crace of colour decoration of buildings in Munich, among which may be mentioned a series of studies of decorative treatment of various apartments in the Königsbau, built from the designs of Leo von Klenze. Further drawings by the artist himself of Arabic architecture and colour decoration in Cairo and Damascus are of special interest as having formed the illustrations for a paper on this subject read before the Institute by Mr. Crace in 1870.

Mrs. Gerald C. Horsley has presented to the Library two drawings by her late husband, one being a pen-and-ink perspective of the choir of Gloucester Cathedral, and the other a pencil drawing of the interior of the cathedral of Siena.

From the collection of the late Dr. James Burgess [Hon. A.] Miss Burgess presented a number of drawings by the Hon. Sir Arthur Gordon (afterwards Lord Stanmore), comprising archæological surveys in Egypt and India. The Egyptian drawings consist of a series of plans of Coptic monasteries and churches, while the Indian drawings form a valuable record of the important mosque and the bazaar buildings at Gulbarga, Haidarabad.

A collection of drawings by the late Reginald Barratt and the late Gerald C. Horsley executed in the office of R. Norman Shaw was offered to the Library, but the Committee, taking into consideration the fact that the Institute collection of Norman Shaw's work was already fully representative, decided to present the drawings to the architectural school of Sheffield University at the request of Mr. W. S. Purchon, the Lecturer on Architecture at the University.

Presentations of books have been received from Mrs. Keirle and by the bequest of the late C. F. Merriman [A.]. As copies of a number of the books in these two gifts were already in the Reference and Loan Collections the Committee have presented the duplicates to the Library of the Architectural Association.

The following is the Librarian's Report to the Committee :—

During the twelve months ending the 31st March of the present year 223 volumes and 37 pamphlets have been added to the Library, exclusive of periodicals, reports and transactions of Societies, and parts of works issued in serial form. The drawings presented numbered 139, and prints 34 sheets.

The number of works presented was 141 volumes and 35 pamphlets.

Works purchased numbered 82 volumes and 2 pamphlets, of which 17 were added to the Loan Library.

The attendance of readers in the Reference Library numbered 2,032.

The number of books issued on loan was 871.

The number of tickets issued for admission to the Library, other than to members of the Institute or to Students and Probationers, was 27.

The books issued through the post numbered 134.

Donations of books, pamphlets, or drawings have been received from Mrs. Gerald C. Horsley, Mr. Benj. Ingelow, Professor Patrick Geddes, Mr. A. E. Murray, Mrs. Charles, M. Louis van der Swaelmen, Miss Constance A. Baily, Mr. J. D. Crace, Sir John J. Burnet, Mr. Ambrose Poynter, The Yale University Press, Pittsburgh Architectural Club, M. Pierre Turpin, Mrs. E. Greenop, Mr. Fiske Kimball, Mr. J. Arnott Hamilton, Mr. R. Trayfoot, Mr. W. H. Elgar, Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., Mr. John Bilson, the High Commissioner, Commonwealth of Australia, Mrs. Keirle, the late C. F. Merriman, Mrs. Griffiths, Miss Burgess, the Commission of Conservation, Canada.

Among the books purchased or presented during the year may be mentioned:—Cook's *Twenty-five Great Houses of France*; Cunningham, Younger and Smith's *Measured Drawings of Georgian Architecture in the District of Columbia, 1750-1820*; King's *George Edmund Street*; Chippendale's *The Gentleman and Cabinet-maker's Director*, &c. (Reprint); Ackermann's *Designs for Architects*, &c.; Humphreys' *Handbook of County Bibliography*; Porter's *Lombard Architecture*; van der Swaelmen's *Préliminaires d'Art Civique*; Mommsen's *I Commentarii dei Ludi Secolari Augustei e Severiani Scoperti in Roma*, &c.; Lewis's *Planning of the Modern City*; Geddes's *Town Planning in Balrampur*, &c.; Howard and Crossley's *English Church Woodwork*; Cox's *Bench Ends in English Churches*; Perrault-Dabot's *Archives de la Commission des Monuments Historiques*, *Catalogue des Relevés, Dessins et Aquarelles*; Byne and Stapley's *Spanish Architecture of the Sixteenth Century*; Ashbee's *Where the Great City Stands*; Cram's *The Substance of Gothic*; Jenkinson's *London Churches Before the Great Fire*; Evelyn's *Parallel of the Antient Architecture with the Modern*, &c.; Andrews' *Further Problems in the Theory and Design of Structures*; Gardner's *Paint Technology and Tests*; Morley's *The Theory of Structures*; Morris's *Lectures on Architecture*; *Transcription of the Diary of Nicholas Stone, Junr., MS.*

REPORT OF THE SCIENCE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Since the date of the previous Report ten meetings of the Committee have been held, with an average attendance of 10 members, exclusive of Sub-Committees. Mr. W. E. Vernon Crompton was elected Chairman, Mr. Horace Cheston Vice-Chairman, and Messrs. Allan O. Collard and Digby L. Solomon were re-elected joint Hon. Secretaries. Mr. John W. Simpson was invited to become a Visiting Member, as the By-laws do not provide for the co-option of members by a Standing Committee.

Last year the Committee were informed that the use of shell-discard steel was, at that time, permitted by the Ministry of Munitions for building purposes, without a permit. Further information having reached the Committee since, it was decided to prepare and publish the notes on "Controlled Building Materials" which appeared in the JOURNAL of March 1918, the restrictions having become increasingly stringent. The Committee hope to revise these notes from time to time to bring them into harmony with the current orders.

While the Committee think the time may not be ripe for the introduction of the metric system, they informed the Decimal Association that their suggestion for the Institute to appoint a representative to the Association should be addressed to the Council direct, which led to the election of Mr. Searles-Wood on the Executive Committee of the Decimal Association.

After discussion of a proposal to introduce additional scientific symbols, submitted by the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the Committee advised the Institution to approach all the English scientific societies, including the Engineering Standards Committee, with a view to collaboration and to prevent overlapping.

A proposal to establish a Board of Inventions, with power to issue certificates of approval, was not regarded by the Committee as likely to serve a useful purpose under the conditions suggested, being more a matter for a Government department to undertake.

The joint Conference on Steel-framed Buildings having drawn up their Report, the Committee have recommended the Council to contribute one-third of the cost of printing it, such contribution not to exceed £10.

A full examination of the physical qualities of tiles is in abeyance, though a microscopical test of a few samples is now being conducted for the Committee.

The Committee's inquiries and visits with respect to the vibration of belfries have been suspended for the time being, though there is sufficient data in hand for a short paper on the subject.

The Committee are of opinion that the time has arrived for it to be brought into close touch with the universities, colleges, laboratories, and others responsible for the administration of research throughout the Empire, and has referred the matter to the Research Committee to formulate a scheme, which will be presented to the Council in due course.

The structural damage done to buildings by bombs and shells having been discussed by the Committee at several meetings, and interviews having taken place with the Headquarters' Staff of the Home Defence, the Secretaries of the Industrial and Scientific Research Commission and of the Fire Preventions Committee, it has been decided to invite members to send in confidential information of cases which have come under their personal observation, in the future interests of the profession and the public. A paragraph to that effect will appear in the JOURNAL, and it is hoped that members will collaborate in giving this information.

In November the Committee recommended the Council to present a petition to the Local Government Board or other competent authority to alter or vary the present Building Regulations, so as to permit approved substitutes to be used.

A proposal for the Committee to collaborate with the Tudor Walters Committee on Housing received favourable consideration, but has not yet matured.

The Committee having been asked by an Army officer to advise on the economical reduction of noise arising from wooden engine houses, certain recommendations were made, in accordance with the Notes which were published in the JOURNAL of February 1918.

The Committee having been consulted with regard to the proposed working of certain gypsum beds in Australia were able to assist the applicant to obtain information on the kind of furnaces and apparatus required, together with the names of scientific records on the subject generally, and the places where gypsum works can be seen.

Various new books on scientific subjects have been examined by the Committee, and some of them recommended for use in the Library.

REPORT OF THE TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Four meetings of the Town Planning Committee and six meetings of the Charing Cross Bridge Joint Committee have been held since the date of the last report. Sir Aston Webb, R.A., was re-elected Chairman, Professor Beresford Pite Vice-Chairman and Mr. W. R. Davidge Honorary Secretary.

The proposed Arterial Roads for Greater London recommended by the conferences of Local Authorities and Professional Societies, as mentioned in the last report, were referred by the Local Government Board to Sir George Gibb, Chairman of the Road Board, for further consideration and report. No public report on the subject has been issued, but the Seventh Annual Report of the Road Board contained a letter sent to the Government Reconstruction Committee, showing that on financial grounds the Road Board were not in sympathy with the proposals put forward by the Local Government Board Conferences, the opinion being expressed that road crust improvements were of more importance than proposals for new roads. On the recommendation of the Committee a letter has been addressed by the Council of the R.I.B.A. to the Reconstruction Committee and also to the President of the Local Government Board urging the importance of these new roads being carried out as early as possible after the war, as a necessary accompaniment to the housing and other development schemes which must in any case be undertaken.

The numerous press cuttings received as to the progress of town planning schemes all over the country have proved of great service in enabling the Institute, with the aid of its Allied Societies, to keep in close touch with the various municipal authorities. Representations have in each case been

made to the Local Authority with a view to the appointment of an architect to collaborate with the municipal officials in the preparation of the scheme.

In addition to the town planning schemes brought to the notice of the Allied Societies, several schemes in the Home District have been considered in detail by the Committee. In these cases a plan of the proposal has been secured and one or more members of the Committee have reported on the proposals in detail. The thanks of the Committee are particularly due to Colonel R. C. Hellard, R.E., in this connection.

The Committee are glad to note that the Glasgow Corporation have called into consultation with them Mr. John Watson [F.] and Mr. John Keppie [F.] with a view to a number of city improvement and housing schemes.

The Thames Side Housing and Development Committee in connection with the Garden Cities Association, under the chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Crow [F.], to which two representatives were appointed by the Committee, have completed their interim report dealing with the Thames Side Housing and dock development and their report will be issued shortly.

The subject of Housing after the War has been under consideration by the Local Government Board and a technical committee has been set up to deal with the question, on which our Chairman, Sir Aston Webb, has represented the Institute.

The Memoranda of the Town Planning Institute and of the National Housing and Town Planning Council on the subject of town planning and housing have been under consideration and it is hoped that some simplification of town planning procedure may be eventually obtained.

The Committee also note an interesting publication by the American Institute of Architects' Committee on Town Planning entitled *City Planning Progress*, 1917, which shows in attractive and well illustrated form what American architects have achieved in city planning.

Professor Beresford Pite brought before the Committee the need for the consideration of sites for National Memorials in London and other large cities. A number of sites and suggestions have been considered, and on the instruction of the Council the Committee is giving further consideration to this matter, in co-operation with the London Society.

The Charing Cross Bridge Bill came before the House of Lords' Committee on the 3rd July 1917, when, on the representations of the Institute and the London Society, several very important amendments were effected in the Bill. The House of Lords allowed the Bill to proceed upon the railway company giving an undertaking that no expenditure in relation to Charing Cross Station, as apart from the bridge, should be incurred without further parliamentary sanction being obtained; further, that in the event of any public improvement involving the removal of the existing station and bridge being authorised within fifteen years the railway company should not be reimbursed for any expenditure they might incur on the strengthening of the bridge; also that the railway company should not commence construction of the works above water until the expiration of three years from the passing of the Bill, unless the Board of Trade, in the public interest, should require the work to proceed earlier. (See JOURNAL R.I.B.A., July 1917, p. 223.) The opportunity thus obtained for further consideration by the authorities as to the possibilities of the construction of a fine new road bridge, urgently wanted at Charing Cross, should prove of the utmost value.

REPORT OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE FOR SESSION 1917-18.

This Committee, originally constituted as a Sub-Committee of the Science Committee, is now a direct Committee of the Council, and consists of eight members, two additional members in the persons of Messrs. Walter Cave and Matt. Garbutt having been appointed during the past year. A strengthening of the Committee by the addition of still further members is at present under consideration. The Chairman is Mr. Alan E. Munby, M.A. [F.], and the Hon. Secretary Mr. Digby L. Solomon, B.Sc. [A.].

The following are some of the subjects which have been dealt with by the Committee during the past twelve months :—

Corrosion of Brass and other Non-Ferrous Metals.—For some time it has been the opinion of the Committee that research work should be undertaken in connection with the corrosion of brass, gun-metal, and other alloys used in the building trade—with a view either to the discovery of some more durable protective covering than ordinary lacquer, or of an alteration in the composition of the constituents of brass or these alloys—in order to render the finished article less liable to the rapid corrosion which it suffers under ordinary atmospheric influences as at present manufactured, and further, in order to dispense with the vast amount of labour which is at present daily expended in polishing brass and similar articles.

As a result of considerable correspondence and many interviews with the Government Advisory Council on Scientific and Industrial Research and with the Institute of Metals, a joint Committee has now been formed at the instigation of the R.I.B.A. Research Committee to deal with this important subject, such Committee consisting of three representatives appointed by the Royal Institute of British Architects, three by the Institute of Metals, and three by the Trade. The R.I.B.A. is represented by the following members of the Research Committee :—Messrs. Alan E. Munby, W. E. Vernon Crompton, and Digby L. Solomon.

Glass for Pavement Lights.—As at present manufactured practically all the various types of lenses and prisms used for Pavement Lights and Floor Lights are subject to rapid deterioration by the weather and by traffic and hard wear, resulting in flaking and shelling of the surface, with consequent great loss of light to those portions of the building which they cover. Investigations have been undertaken in this matter at the instigation of the Research Committee in conjunction with the Advisory Council, and a formula has been devised by Professor Jackson, the Government expert on Glass, which has resulted in the manufacture of a hard, tough, resistant yet transparent glass by Messrs. Moncrieff, of Perth. Sample lenses have since been received by the Research Committee from Messrs. Moncrieff, of a size to fit the standard Pavement Light Frame in use, and having the surfaces of various finishes. These samples are being inserted in one of the busy streets in the City, and records will be taken from time to time as to the wearing qualities of these samples. Should this glass prove satisfactory through the test of time, it is intended, with the consent of the Advisory Council, to advise the manufacture of this type of glass on a large scale. The improvements which result will have their effect on the enhanced financial value and hygienic condition of basements.

Research into Timber.—It has been brought to the notice of the Committee that the Advisory Council on Scientific and Industrial Research intends to carry out a scheme of research into the whole subject of timber, not only with a view to investigating such subjects as the decay of timber from dry-rot and other causes, but also with a view to the more extended use of various by-products of timber and timber-waste; to improvements in the method of rendering various varieties non-inflammable; to methods of enhancing their staining and polishing qualities; and so forth. In May 1916 a considered memorandum was sent to the Advisory Council on the one subject of Dry-Rot (a copy of which memorandum has since been printed in the Institute JOURNAL) and recently a further memorandum has been sent to this Body on the whole subject of Research into Timber, a copy of which second memorandum it is hoped to reprint shortly in the JOURNAL.

Indian and Colonial Timbers.—As a result of representations made to the Imperial Institute a joint Committee was constituted in 1916, under the Chairmanship of the Director of that Institute, to consider the subject of Indian and Colonial Timbers in all its bearings. During the year under review this joint Committee has met frequently, and has been considerably enlarged. It now consists of the following members :—three representatives from the R.I.B.A. (Messrs. Searles-Wood, W. E. Vernon Crompton, and Digby L. Solomon), two members from the Institute of Builders, two from the Timber Trade, two from the Furniture Trade, one representative of the Carpenters' Company, two

representatives from the Imperial Institute (one of whom is the Director of the Imperial Institute) and Sir Keith Price. It is a pleasure to record that Mr. Searles-Wood has recently been appointed Chairman of this Committee. The Committee is now recognised as one of the technical Committees of the Imperial Institute, and has already issued an interim report on the subject of Indian Timbers, which will be followed later on by reports on timbers indigenous to the other Dominions and the Colonies.

Imperial Institute Committee on Ornamental Building Stones.—Following on similar lines to the above Committee a further joint Committee has recently been formed at the Imperial Institute at the suggestion of the R.I.B.A. Research Committee, to deal with the subject of Indian and Colonial Ornamental Building Stones, and two representatives from the R.I.B.A. have been appointed to such Committee in the persons of Messrs. Walter Tapper and Andrew N. Prentice.

Among other subjects which have been under the consideration of the Committee during the preceding twelve months are the corrosion of steel and iron embedded in concrete; the protective power of various paints in reference to the corrosion and preservation of steel and other metals; and the scientific training of architectural students. And at the present time a detailed memorandum is under discussion on the subject of Scientific Research in connection with the Building Industry as a whole. It is hoped that the deliberations and investigations which are being carried out at the suggestion of the Research Committee will lead to results of national value, which will be felt by the profession and the trade at large; and it is intended to publish from time to time the results of such investigations.

REPORT OF THE ARCHITECTS' WAR COMMITTEE.

At the beginning of the current year the War Committee had the misfortune to lose the services of Mr. Alan Munby as Honorary Secretary. He had spared neither time nor trouble in the business of the Committee, and his work had been of the most valuable kind. He has been succeeded in the position by Mr. Arthur Keen.

Some of the Sub-Committees having grown to an unwieldy size, the constitution of them has been reviewed. Any displaced members who were not already members of the main Committee have been placed upon it. The Executive Committee now consists of sixteen ordinary members representing various Sub-Committees and including the Presidents of two Allied Societies.

Among many matters brought before it the question of Housing of the Working Classes was dealt with at some length by the Committee, but when the Institute Committee on Housing was set up it was transferred to that Committee and one of the members of the Executive Committee was co-opted to serve upon it.

Another matter that has been considered is the scheduling of places of shelter in case of Air Raids, and communications upon the subject have been made to the Military and Police Authorities.

A proposal for setting up a Board to assist architects seeking exemption from military service by hearing their cases and appearing before the Tribunals was considered but not adopted. Arrangements were, however, made for dealing with cases where particular cause for action was shown, and in one instance the arrangement was carried out with effectual results.

The work of the Selection Committee is much reduced in amount. Nearly all the men of military age in the profession are now in the Services or otherwise occupied under the Government, and the efforts of this Committee are mainly directed to helping men to secure commissions and transfers in the Army or to finding work of national importance for those who have been discharged or placed in a low category. Any information that can be given as to suitable appointments for such men will be most valuable to the Committee. Positions for a great many men have been found, but there are constantly fresh applications for help in this direction to be dealt with.

The Reorganisation Committee is dealing with many proposals for reinstating men in the profession after the war, for securing employment or educational facilities for the younger men, and generally for helping all to make up the time lost by them while serving their country. The Committee is also endeavouring to secure from the Government and Public Authorities appointments or commissions for architects whose practice has fallen away while they were serving with the Colours. This Committee includes the Presidents of the Allied Societies among its members and it deals with matters connected with demobilisation and after-war conditions.

A Sub-Committee for watching and safeguarding the interests of architectural assistants has been formed and is intended to become a permanent Committee.

The Architectural Association has formed an Information and Employment Bureau for the benefit of men coming out of the Army.

There has been a considerable falling-off in the number of applications to the Employment Sub-Committee, and the actual number of men lately reported as being engaged on independent Civic Surveys and other subsidised work under this Committee in London and the provinces was only twenty-two as compared with thirty-seven in the early part of 1917, and most of these were men of advanced age.

Special assistance has been given to applicants in a few cases of particular need.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY AUDITORS FOR 1917.

We have carefully examined the books and checked the various items therein with the accounts and vouchers for the year 1917. We have also examined the various share certificates held by the Institute and the list of share certificates deposited at the bank, all of which were found to be in order and to agree with the balance sheet prepared by the accountants.

We note with great satisfaction the savings that have been effected in every branch of expenditure, the result of which has been that the bank overdraft which on 31st December, 1914, stood at £2,707 has been still further reduced and now stands at £1,639. Moreover, the estimated surplus for the year was £165, whereas the actual surplus works out at £241, notwithstanding the fact that a certain sum has been used for war allowances which was not allowed for in the estimate of expenditure. A considerable decrease of income arises from the fact that the Council are still remitting the subscriptions of Members and Licentiates who are serving with H.M. Forces. A further reduction is due to the decreased number of candidates for examination. Income arising from the various Trust Funds, to the amount of £420 5s. 6d., has been invested in War securities. These investments will materially augment the value of prizes in the future.

We observe that the value of the premises still stands at the old figure, and presume it is intended to have a proper valuation made in the near future.

We find that the revenue has been judiciously used and the work carried on in an economical manner and in the best interests of the Institute, and we congratulate the staff on the way they have performed their duties.

HENRY A. SAUL [F.] }
H. S. EAST [A.] } Hon. Auditors.

FINANCES.

The accounts of Ordinary and Trust Funds for 1917, prepared by Messrs. Saffery, Sons & Co., Chartered Accountants, and audited by Messrs. Henry A. Saul [F.] and H. S. East [A.], Hon. Auditors, here follows :—

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1917-1918

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Income and Expenditure Account of Ordinary Funds for the Year ended 31st December, 1917.

Dr.	Exclusive of Entrance Fees and Subscriptions in advance.	Cr.
EXPENDITURE.		
To ORDINARY EXPENDITURE—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent	69 5 0	
Rates and Taxes	847 1 5	
Interest on Mortgage	160 0 0	
Gas and Electric Lighting	1076 6 5	
Fuel	79 7 3	
Salaries*	104 4 3	
General Printing, Stationery, Stamps, and Petty Expenses	2722 6 2	
General Meetings and Exhibitions	304 13 4	
Housekeeping and Wages	6 9 0	
Advertisements	284 17 7	
Examination Expenses	19 15 6	
General Repairs	64 3 9	
Fire and Aircraft Insurance	76 9 8	
Grant to Architects' Benevolent Society	52 8 6	
Grant to Architectural Association	100 0 0	
Grant to London Society (Charing Cross Bridge Bill)	100 0 0	
Board of Scientific Societies	26 5 0	
Grant to British School at Rome	20 0 0	
Library	3 3 0	
JOURNAL—		
Reporting	23 5 8	
Printing and Binding	611 11 4	
Illustrations	23 5 7	
Postage and Carriage	309 10 8	
KALENDAR (Supplement)	977 13 3	
Contributions to Allied Societies†	75 5 6	
War Committee and Civic Survey	399 9 0	
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—		
Legal and Accountants	255 15 9	
Presidents of Allied Societies	40 6 2	
Telephone	9 6 8	
War allowances to Staff	35 0 0	
Sundries	150 0 0	
33 12 10	268 5 8	
Reserve for fine payable at renewal of Lease	7 0 0	
Interest on Overdraft	42 3 1	
Balance of Income over Expenditure for year carried to an included in Balance Sheet Surplus	241 6 8	
	£7376 4 11	£7376 4 11

* Including the sum of £710 16s. paid to members of the staff on service as supplementary to their military pay.

† By-law 82 provides that "The Royal Institute shall, in each year, contribute to any Non-Metropolitan Allied Society not more than one-fourth of the annual subscription paid to the Royal Institute by each member thereof who is also a member of such Society, in respect of and for his subscription thereto; but in no event shall such contribution apply in the case of any one member to more than one Allied Society."

SAFFERY, SONS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found to be correct. 9th April 1918. { HENRY A. SAUL (F.) } Hon. Auditors.
(H. S. EAST (A.))

Balance Sheet of Ordinary Funds, 31st December, 1917

Dr.	LIABILITIES.	Cr.
To Sundry Creditors—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sundry	693 17 1	
Mortgage Interest	40 0 0	
Rent	17 10 0	
Reserve for fine payable on renewal of Lease	751 7 1	
Examination Fees anticipatory of election	70 0 0	
Subscriptions received in advance	66 3 0	
Bank Overdraft	93 9 11	
Lieutenant Francis Grissell Legacy Fund	1639 15 3	
Surplus of Assets over Liabilities (subject to Valuation of Premises and realisation of Debtors and Subscriptions in Arrear)	500 0 0	
	36269 2 7	
	£39389 17 10	£39389 17 10

NOTE:—

A Fine of £7 per annum is payable every 14 years in respect of the premises under a Lease from the Corporation of the City of London. Notice of renewal must be given at Michaelmas, 1921, and the fine of £98 paid.

SAFFERY, SONS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found to be correct. 9th April 1918. { HENRY A. SAUL (F.) } Hon. Auditors.
(H. S. EAST (A.))

Revenue Accounts of Trust Funds for the Year ended 31st December 1917.

Dr.

£ s. d.

Cr.

£ s. d.

ASHPIRE PRIZE FUND:—	
To purchase of £20 5 per Cent. War Loan	19 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	2 12 5

21 12 5

21 12 5

ANDERSON AND WEBB FUND:—	
To purchase of £25 5 per Cent. War Loan	23 15 0
To purchase of £10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	10 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	3 11 2

37 6 2

37 6 2

ARTHUR CATES LEGACY:—	
To purchase of £45 5 per Cent. War Loan	42 15 0
To purchase of £20 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	20 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	4 10 10

67 5 10

67 5 10

DONALDSON TESTIMONIAL FUND:—	
To Balance carried forward.....	5 15 4

5 15 4

5 15 4

DONATION FUND:—	
To purchase of £40 5 per Cent. War Loan	38 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	5 13 9

43 13 9

43 13 9

GODWIN BURSARY:—	
To purchase of £25 5 per Cent. War Loan	23 15 0
To purchase of £10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	10 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	1 17 3

35 12 3

35 12 3

GRISSELL LEGACY:—	
To purchase of £20 5 per Cent. War Loan	19 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	9 6 11

28 6 11

28 6 11

OWEN JONES STUDENTSHIP:—	
To purchase of £107 9s. 6d. 5 per Cent. War Loan	102 5 0
To purchase of £10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	10 0 0

3 3 10

3 3 10

115 8 10

115 8 10

PUGIN MEMORIAL FUND:—	
To purchase of £47 16s. 5 per Cent. War Loan	45 5 0
To purchase of £10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	10 0 0
To Balance carried forward.....	2 1 3

57 6 3

57 6 3

SAXON SNELL BEQUEST:—	
To purchase of £20 5 per Cent. War Loan	19 0 0
To purchase of £20 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	20 0 0

7 4 0

7 4 0

46 4 0

46 4 0

TITE LEGACY FUND:—	
To purchase of £35 5 per Cent. War Loan	33 5 0
To purchase of £10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	10 0 0

2 11 11

2 11 11

45 16 11

45 16 11

WIMPERIS BEQUEST:—	
To purchase of £35 5 per Cent. War Loan	33 5 0
To purchase of £10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds	10 0 0

6 18 10

6 18 10

£50 3 10

£50 3 10

SAFFERY, SONS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found to be correct.

9th April 1918.

(HENRY A. SAUL [F.]) Hon. Auditors.

(H. S. EAST [A.])

Balance Sheet of Trust Funds, 31st December 1917.

Dr.	£ s. d.	Cr.	£ s. d.
To ASHPITEL PRIZE FUND:—			
Capital—£305 1s. 8d. New South Wales 4 per Cent. Debentures (1922): Value at 31st December, 1917.....	280 13 6	By Government and other Securities, being total of Trust Funds invested at this date, at valuation. Also of War Savings Certificates at cost	9813 11 11
£76 8s. 11d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	76 1 3	By Cash at Bank:—	55 7 6
£20 5 per Cent. War Loan.....	18 15 0	Cash on Deposit	75 0 0
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	2 12 5	(Jarvis Scholarship)	130 7 6
To ANDERSON AND WEBB FUND (Board of Architectural Education):—	547 6 6		
Capital—£594 18s. 4d. New South Wales 4 per Cent. Debentures (1922): Value at 31st December, 1917.....	46 1 2		
£58 6s. 4d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	56 0 9		
£25 5 per Cent. War Loan	23 8 9		
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	10 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	3 11 2		
To ARTHUR CATES LEGACY FUND:—	686 8 4		
Capital—£1160 N.E. Railway 4 per Cent. Preference Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	858 8 0		
£137 18s. 7d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	137 4 9		
£45 5 per Cent. War Loan	42 3 9		
£20 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	20 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	4 10 10		
To DONALDSON TESTIMONIAL FUND:—	1062 7 4		
Capital—£72 L. & N.W. Railway 4 per Cent. Consolidated Preference Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	53 5 8		
£40 5 per Cent. War Loan	42 3 4		
400 War Savings Certificates.....	5 15 4		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	71 4 4		
To DONATION FUND:—			
£76 8s. 11d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	76 1 3		
£40 5 per Cent. War Loan	37 10 0		
400 War Savings Certificates.....	310 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	5 13 9		
To GODWIN BURSARY FUND:—	420 5 0		
Capital—£1030 Caledonian Railway 4 per Cent. Debenture Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	772 10 0		
£44 6s. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	44 1 7		
£25 5 per Cent. War Loan	23 8 9		
50 War Savings Certificates.....	38 15 0		
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	10 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	1 17 3		
To GRISSELL LEGACY FUND:—	890 12 7		
Capital—£20 0s. 8d. "B" Annuity Great Indian Peninsula Railway: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	295 9 10		
£20 7s. 8d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	20 5 7		
£20 5 per Cent. War Loan	18 15 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	9 6 11		
To OWEN JONES STUDENTSHIP FUND:—	343 17 4		
Capital—£2128 Midland Railway 2½ per Cent. Debenture Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	1074 12 10		
£1247 G.W. Railway 5 per Cent. Consolidated Guaranteed Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	1172 8 8		
£398 16s. 8d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	398 16 9		
£107 9s. 6d. 5 per Cent. War Loan.....	100 15 2		
50 War Savings Certificates.....	38 15 0		
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	10 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	3 3 10		
To PUGIN MEMORIAL FUND:—	2796 7 3		
Capital—£1070 L. & N.W. Railway 4 per Cent. Consolidated Preference Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	791 16 0		
£15 9s. 9d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	15 8 2		
£47 16s. 5 per Cent. War Loan	44 16 3		
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	10 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	2 1 3		
To SAXON SNELL BEQUEST:—	864 1 8		
Capital—£698 4s. New Zealand 3½ per Cent. Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	502 14 1		
£204 10s. 4d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	203 9 11		
£20 5 per Cent. War Loan	18 15 0		
£20 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	20 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	7 4 0		
To TITE LEGACY FUND:—	752 3 0		
Capital—£1150 2½ per Cent. Consols: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	626 15 0		
£51 12s. 8d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	51 7 4		
£35 5 per Cent. War Loan.....	32 16 3		
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	10 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	2 11 11		
To WIMPERIS BEQUEST:—	723 10 6		
Capital—£1024 18s. 8d. Metropolitan Water Board 3 per Cent. "B" Stock: Value at 31st December, 1917.....	620 1 8		
£202 3s. 5d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan.....	201 3 2		
£35 5 per Cent. War Loan.....	32 16 3		
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds.....	10 0 0		
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	6 18 10		
To HENRY JARVIS STUDENTSHIP:—	870 19 11		
Balance in hand	75 0 0		
	£9943 19 5		£9943 19 5

SAFFERY, SONS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found to be correct. 9th April 1918. { HENRY A. SAUL (F.R.) } Hon. Auditors.
H. S. EAST (A.)

The Council submit a rough Estimate of Income and Expenditure of Ordinary Funds for the year ending 31st December 1918, exclusive of Entrance Fees :—

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.		£ <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	ORDINARY INCOME.		£ <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
Rent, Rates and Taxes, &c.	1100	0	Subscriptions and Arrears	6500	0
Gas and Electric Lighting	85	0	Sale of Publications	100	0
Fuel	100	0	Advertisements	200	0
Salaries	2775	0	Examination Fees	300	0
General Printing, Stationery, Stamps, and Petty Expenses	300	0	Use of Rooms	80	0
General Meetings and Exhibitions	15	0	Dividend on Grissell Legacy	20	0
Housekeeping and Wages	295	0			
Advertisements	20	0			
Examination Expenses	65	0			
General Repairs	100	0			
Fire and Aircraft Insurance	70	0			
Grants	300	0			
Library	75	0			
The JOURNAL	1050	0			
The KALENDAR SUPPLEMENT	75	0			
Contributions to Allied Societies	400	0			
Presidents of Allied Societies	10	0			
Legal	10	0			
Accountants	30	0			
Miscellaneous	135	0			
Interest on Overdraft	40	0			
Special Items :—					
War Committee and Civic Survey	150	0			
	£7200	0	£7200	0	0

Privy Council's Sanction to Suspension of Bye-Laws.

AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WHITEHALL,
The 12th day of April, 1918.

By the Lords of His Majesty's Most Honourable
Privy Council.

WHEREAS by the Charter of the Royal Institute of British Architects, dated the 28th March, 1887, it is provided that the Royal Institute may from time to time by Resolution of a General Meeting, confirmed at a subsequent General Meeting, which shall be held not less than 7 and not more than 28 days after the former Meeting, make and adopt such Bye-laws as may be deemed expedient, and may in the same manner vary, suspend, and rescind any Bye-laws: Provided always that no such Bye-laws shall be of any force or validity whatever unless and until they have been approved by the Lords of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council:

AND WHEREAS the Royal Institute did, by Resolution of a General Meeting held on the 4th March, 1918, confirmed at a General Meeting held on the 25th March, 1918, suspend Bye-laws Nos. 27 to 35 (inclusive), 46, and 50 to 54 (inclusive), so far as the said Bye-laws govern the Annual Election of the Council, the Standing Committees, and the Honorary Auditors, so that the Council, the Standing Committees, and Honorary Auditors, elected in June, 1917, should remain in office till the 30th June, 1919, provided always that the Allied Societies mentioned in the said Bye-laws and the Architectural Association should be represented on the Council by their Presidents in accordance with the said Bye-laws:

AND WHEREAS the Royal Institute has submitted the said Resolution to the Lords of the Council for approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, Their Lordships, having taken the said Resolution into consideration, are hereby pleased to approve the same.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

War Restrictions on Building.

The following letter has been addressed from the Institute to the Prime Minister :—

April 3rd, 1918.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the subjoined resolution,* which I am directed to submit for the consideration of His Majesty's Government, was passed by a General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects on the 7th January last and has received the approval of the Allied Societies of the Royal Institute throughout the United Kingdom, and of the Architectural Association, the Institute of Scottish Architects, The Surveyors' Institution, the London Master Builders' Association, the Quantity Surveyors' Association, the District Surveyors' Association, and the British Fire Prevention Committee.

In view of the serious importance of the question to all connected with building, I am directed to express the hope that the Reconstruction policy of His Majesty's Government may support the views expressed by the resolution of the Royal Institute.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

G. NORTHOVER,
For the Secretary.

**That in view of the important interests involved, this Institute should, in conjunction with other bodies, take steps to represent to the Government the serious objections to the continuance after the declaration of peace of the present War restrictions on building."*

Formal acknowledgment of the letter has been received from Downing Street.

Structural Damage caused by Bombs from Air-Craft.

The Science Standing Committee, having had under consideration in the interests of the public and of the profession the structural damage done to buildings by bombs dropped from aircraft and shells, are collecting evidence on the subject with a view to codifying the information thus obtained for the use of architects. Members of the Institute in London and the Pro-

vinces are therefore invited to send detailed information of cases that have come under their personal observation to the Hon. Secretary of the Science Standing Committee, 9 Conduit Street, W. Such information will be treated as confidential as it cannot be published by individual members or by the Institute without the knowledge and consent of the Home Defence and Home Office Authorities.

The Institute and Allied Societies at Birmingham.

In the January issue of the *JOURNAL* a brief notice appeared of the meeting of the Joint Committee of representatives of the R.I.B.A. and of the Allied Societies held at Manchester on 12th December last. This was the Committee's second meeting, the first having been held in London last October. The third took place at Birmingham on the 20th March.

As with its predecessors, the Birmingham gathering was very representative, the R.I.B.A. being represented by the President, Mr. Lanchester and Mr. Searles-Wood, and the Allied Societies by the following, mostly Presidents : Mr. W. A. Harvey (Birmingham), Mr. John B. Gass (Manchester), Mr. E. Percy Hinde (Liverpool), Mr. George T. Brown (Northern, Newcastle), Sir Frank W. Wills (Bristol), Mr. Adam F. Watson (Sheffield), Mr. S. Perkins Pick (Leicester), Mr. J. Cook Rees (South Wales), Mr. James B. Dunn (Edinburgh), Mr. L. Kitchen (York), Mr. Lewis F. Tonar (Exeter); Mr. Isaac Taylor, Hon. Secretary of Allied Societies, Mr. Alfred Hale, Hon. Secretary Birmingham Association, Mr. G. Northover, for Secretary R.I.B.A. The meeting, which lasted well over three hours, was held amid the agreeable surroundings of the Winter Exhibition of the Royal Society of Artists at their Gallery in New Street. Among matters discussed were the Revised Scale of Charges and a Scale for Housing Schemes; some suggested amendments in the Council resolutions respecting Professional Conduct (*KALENDAR*, page 70); the Revised Conditions of Contract; the desirability of a model Agreement between architects and building owners; the Revised R.I.B.A. Charter and the question of Registration; Government control of Building and Building Materials, &c. The outcome of the Conference will appear in the Committee's report to the Council, which will shortly be published. The social side of the meeting was practically a repetition of the Committee's enjoyable experiences at Manchester. The visitors were the recipients of the very kind and generous hospitality of the Birmingham Association at the Queen's Hotel, where they were put up for the visit. In the evening the Association gave a dinner in their honour, Mr. W. A. Harvey presiding, supported by several members of the Association, among them Mr. John Cotton, the oldest surviving Pugin Student (1869) and the only architect Hon. Associate R.I.B.A., to which class he transferred on giving up practice a few years ago. The day of the Dinner happened to be a meatless day, but the cook at the Queen's was equal to the occasion

and left nothing to be desired. After-dinner speeches were contributed by Mr. Harvey, Mr. Hare, Mr. Searles-Wood, Mr. Lanchester, Sir Frank Wills, Mr. Cook Rees, Mr. Crouch (of Messrs. Crouch, Butler & Savage), and others. Not the least valuable and agreeable part of the visit was the after-dinner informal mingling together of hosts and guests in the smoking-room, affording as it did an opportunity for an interchange of views on questions upon which, though they are held in abeyance during the War, nevertheless call for immediate consideration if action is to be taken quickly when peace is restored.

These provincial meetings have been interesting episodes in the history of the Institute, and will remain pleasant memories to all who took part in them. There is no question but that the use and influence of the Institute are greatly furthered by such gatherings. They help, too, to create a bond of brotherhood which will ultimately bring about that unity which is so greatly needed in the highest interests both of architecture and of architects.

Suggestions for the Treatment of War Memorials.

Sir Edward J. Poynter, P.R.A., Sir Aston Webb, R.A., Sir Hamo Thornycroft, R.A., Sir Thos. Brock, R.A., Mr. Frank Dicksee, R.A., Mr. Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Mr. Charles Sims, R.A., appointed by the Royal Academy to consider War Memorials, offer the following suggestions :—

1. Designs should be obtained either by calling in a competent artist, or by competition; and in the event of a competition being held, whether open or limited, a professional artist should be employed as assessor, who should be consulted as to the site and the conditions of the competition.

2. The site of the memorial, especially if in the open, is of vital importance. Any odd place will not do, and advice should be taken as to the suitability of the site before designs are obtained. In large towns, for instance, a memorial should not be so placed as to obstruct traffic; on the other hand, it should occupy a position sufficiently conspicuous to be worthy of its object; and the value or disadvantage of existing buildings as a background should be considered in deciding its position.

3. Where the memorial is to take the form of sculpture or architecture, the question of material should be determined (a) by the amount of money available—e.g., for bronze, marble, stone, or wood; (b) by local considerations where these exist. If, for example, there is a suitable and durable local stone this should be used in preference to stone imported from a distance; and if such stone is used, due account must be taken of its qualities in the design.

4. In smaller towns or villages the setting of the memorial, the approaches to it, and its immediate surroundings should be carefully considered, and the cost of laying out the site, when necessary, should be included in the scheme. The effect of a memorial is often entirely destroyed by the want of a careful laying out of the site.

5. Where memorials are proposed for the interior of churches or public buildings, whether in sculpture, architecture, stained glass, mural paintings, votive pictures, tapestry Rolls of Honour, or wall tablets, careful regard should be paid to the scale and character of the architecture of the building and to any adjacent monument.

6. The lettering of all inscriptions should be carefully studied, and should be legible. A bold Roman type, or the Italian lettering of the 16th century based on it, is the type most suitable.

7. In all memorials simplicity, scale, and proportion should be aimed at rather than profusion of detail or excessive costliness of material. It is the imaginative and intellectual quality of the work that gives it its final value.

The Committee would be willing to give further advice in particular cases if called upon to do so. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Royal Academy, Piccadilly.

Gas Factories in the Upper Reaches of the Thames.

On the motion for the second reading of the Brentford Gas Bill in the House of Commons on the 20th March Mr. Burns did good service in calling attention to an attempt to smuggle through in a private Bill, brought in purely for financial reasons to meet war conditions, a proposal for the acquisition by the gas company of a site on the Thames at Chiswick on which to erect buildings for gasworks. Early in the war an endeavour had been made by the company to get a Bill through Parliament with the same object, but it was thrown out by the Lords. Mr. Burns said that the site, 185 acres in extent—i.e., twenty times the area of the Houses of Parliament, terrace included—with an extensive river front, was proposed to be used for gas factories. If the scheme went through, he said, it would destroy for all time the amenities and appearance of this charming district. The same company's gasworks at Kew Bridge showed what these hideous erections had done for that neighbourhood right opposite Kew Gardens. London had twenty-two gas factories, twelve of them on the Thames, and most of them in the wrong places. The utilisation of a picturesque area in the upper reaches of the Thames for such purposes should never have been permitted. Mr. Burns pointed out that the proper place ideally and theoretically for these erections was east of London Bridge, not west of Putney Bridge. They would be much more conveniently placed there, for coal would be cheaper and bigger vessels could come up without the intervention of the bridges and without obstructing the traffic. By his unceasing vigilance in these matters Mr. Burns has earned the gratitude of all who are concerned for the general amenity and well-being of London and its environs.

Mrs. Waterhouse.

The death is announced, at Yattendon Court, Berks, at the age of eighty-three, of Mrs. Elizabeth Waterhouse, widow of Alfred Waterhouse, R.A., President R.I.B.A. (1888-91), Royal Gold Medallist (1878). *The Times* of the 6th inst. in its obituary notice says: "Mrs. Waterhouse came of a distinguished family of Friends, her father being John Hodgkin, and the late Thomas Hodgkin, the historian of 'Italy and Her Invaders,' being her brother. Widely and wisely read, she had marked literary gifts, which she put to good use both as an anthologist of a grave and philosophic kind and as a writer in an attractive homiletic vein. She also wrote occasional verse, and it is not here out of place to record that some dignified lines, entitled: 'In Mesopotamia,' and signed by the initials 'E. W.', which appeared in these columns in February, 1916, were written by her. She was married to Mr. Waterhouse in 1860, and after his death in 1905 she continued to live in the house which he had built at Yattendon, where for her many habitual acts of kindness she will

be much mourned. Her eldest son is Mr. Paul Waterhouse, his father's partner and successor, and her eldest daughter is the wife of Mr. Robert Bridges, the Poet Laureate."

War Risks: Reinstatement of Buildings: Fees.

The following Scale of Fees has been laid down by the War Risks Insurance Office:—

(a) In the case of structural damage necessitating the preparation of plans, 5 per cent. Where the damage exceeds £500 and the nature of the work requires quantities to be taken out a further allowance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

(b) In the case of other damage to buildings an allowance in respect of the services of an architect or surveyor, $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

MINUTES.

At a fully constituted Special General Meeting of the Royal Institute held Monday, 25th March 1918, at 5 p.m., Mr. Henry T. Hare, *President*, in the Chair, the Minutes of the Meeting held 4th March 1918, having been printed in the JOURNAL, were taken as read and signed as correct.

On the motion of the President, seconded by the Hon. Secretary, it was RESOLVED that the Resolution passed 4th March with reference to the suspension of By-laws relating to the Annual Elections [see page 120] be confirmed. The proceedings then terminated.

NOTICES.

Annual General Meeting, 6th May.

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Institute will be held Monday, 6th May 1918, at 5.30 p.m. precisely, for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held Monday, 25th March 1918; formally to admit members attending for the first time.

To consider the Annual Report of the Council for the official year 1917-18 (printed on foregoing pages, and copies of which will be available at the meeting).

Election of Members, 10th June.

Applications for membership have been received from the following:—

AS FELLOW.

HOPE: ARTHUR JOHN [Licentiate, who has passed the Qualifying Examination for membership], of 19 Silverwell Street, Bolton; and "Wendeham," Atherton, near Manchester.—*Proposed by* John B. Gass, Paul Ogden, Isaac Taylor.

AS HON. ASSOCIATE.

WEST: REV. GEORGE HERBERT, D.D. [Associate 1871-1917], of Selsley Vicarage, near Stroud, Glos.—*Proposed by* the Council.

Notice of any objection to the nomination of the above gentlemen must be sent to the Council on or before 6th May.

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